

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Currently Amended)

A navigation system comprising:

map information acquiring ~~means~~ device for acquiring map information arranged in a hierarchical structure and classified depending on coverage of a road map the hierarchy structure including levels of a low, medium and high density road information;

input device ~~means~~ for specifying a bypass region to bypass traffic of a vehicle in response to an input operation by a user; and

detour searching ~~means~~ device for searching a route that detours the bypass region only when the bypass region input by the input device ~~means~~ is included within the coverage of the map information belonging to a the level of hierarchy acquired by the map information acquiring device ~~means~~.

Claim 2. (Currently Amended)

The navigation system according to Claim 1, wherein the input device ~~means~~ specifies the type of a route to be detoured in response to the input operation.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended)

The navigation system according to Claim 2, wherein the detour searching device means changes a search starting point depending on what kind of route is specified when making an automatic search for a detour.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended)

The navigation system according to Claim 1, wherein further comprises a display control device means for highlighting the bypass region specified by the input device means on a predetermined display unit.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended)

The navigation system according to Claim 4, wherein the display control device means highlights the bypass route specified together with a detour searched by the detour searching device means.

Claim 6. (New)

The navigation system of claim 1, further comprising a display device that displays said bypass region and detoured route and provides said user with the option of selecting the detoured route.

Claim 7. (New)

A navigation system comprising:

a map information device that acquires map data based on the origin of a user and a selected destination, in one of a low, medium or high density level of road information and determines a route;

a display device that displays the road information in either said low, medium or high density depending on the current location of the user within the route;

a bypass input device by which the user specifies a region within the route to bypass; and

a detour searching device that searches a bypass route that detours the bypass region, the detour searching device performing the search when the user reaches an area within the route in which the acquired map data provides the specified bypass region;

wherein the bypass route is displayed on the display device providing the user with the option to select the bypass route.